

AT THE
TURN OF
EVERY YEAR,



MY UNCLE COMES
TO VISIT,
BRINGING WITH
HIM A WIND OF
THE SLIGHTLY
SKETCHY, GLO-
BALIZED WORLD.

HEY,
SE-CCHAN.



NEW YEAR'S EVE

ASANO INIO



TRANSLATED BY HOX



SORRY, I HAVE
A FLIGHT TO
CATCH FOR SRI
JAYAWARDE-
NEPURA KOTTE
TOMORROW.

HERE FOR
ONLY ONE DAY
AS USUAL?

EVEN AS A
KID, YOU
ALWAYS WERE
RESTLESS,
RUNNING
ABOUT HERE
AND THERE.

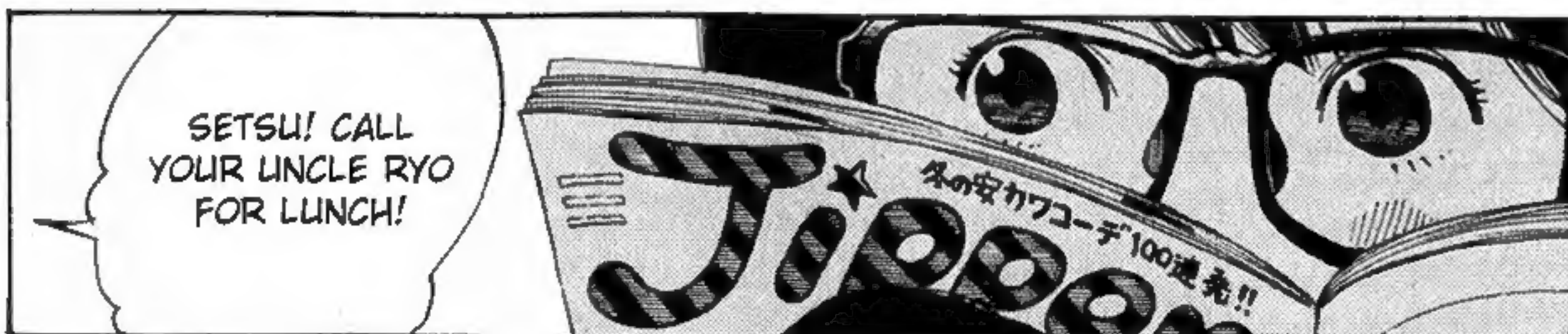


ALRIGHT,
HELP YOUR-
SELVES TO
SOME SOBA!

MEANWHILE,
BROTHER
WAS THE
STUDIOUS
DILIGENT
ONE-

SO I'VE BEEN
SPENDING MORE
TIME WITH THE
MONKS AT THE
TEMPLE EVERY
DAY SINCE I
BECAME ILL.

THIS PLACE
HAS BEEN
SHINGON
BUDDHIST
SINCE WAY
BACK WHEN,
YOU KNOW?



SETSU! CALL
YOUR UNCLE RYO
FOR LUNCH!



THE SOBA'S
DONE!

YOU
WORKING?

UNCLE!



WELL... UP
TO YOU. AM
I JOKING
OR NOT?

...RIGHT?

OH, YOU
AND YOUR
JOKES.



YOU'RE
TAKING YOUR
UNIVERSITY
ENTRANCE
EXAMS THIS
YEAR, RIGHT?

OH THAT'S
RIGHT,
SE-CCHAN.



STILL CALLING
ME JUST
UNCLE? PRETTY
FORMAL,
AREN'T YOU...

WELL, I GOTTA
GET THIS MAIL
SENT OUT OR
IT'LL MEAN A
LOSS OF 200
MILLION YEN.



UNLIKE YOU,
UNCLE, I'M
PRETTY STUPID.

BUT WITH MY
GRADES AND ALL,
I DON'T WANT TO
TELL YOU WHICH
UNI IT IS.

I GOT A
RECOMMENDA-
TION TO A
PRIVATE UNI
IN TOKYO.



I ALWAYS
THOUGHT
YOU'D GO TO
A UNIVERSITY
IN TOKYO.

REMEMBER
THE TIME WE
WENT TO
HARAJUKU
TOGETHER?

YOU HAD SO
MUCH FUN,
SO I JUST
NATURALLY
ASSUMED...

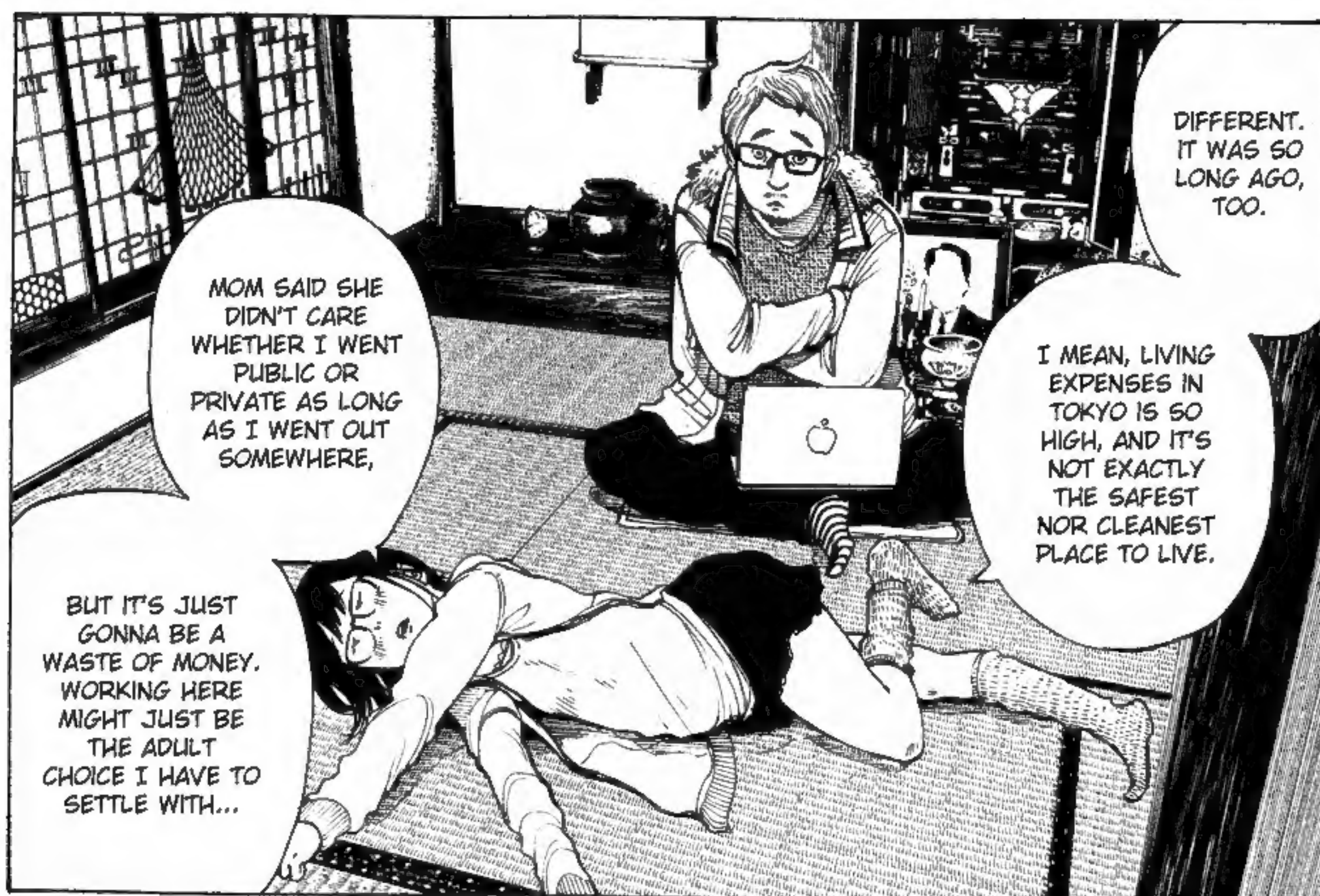


IT'S FINE TO
BE STUPID
WHEN YOU'RE
YOUNG.

YOU'RE
GOING TO UNI
TO STUDY
AND LEARN,
AFTER ALL.



THAT'S...

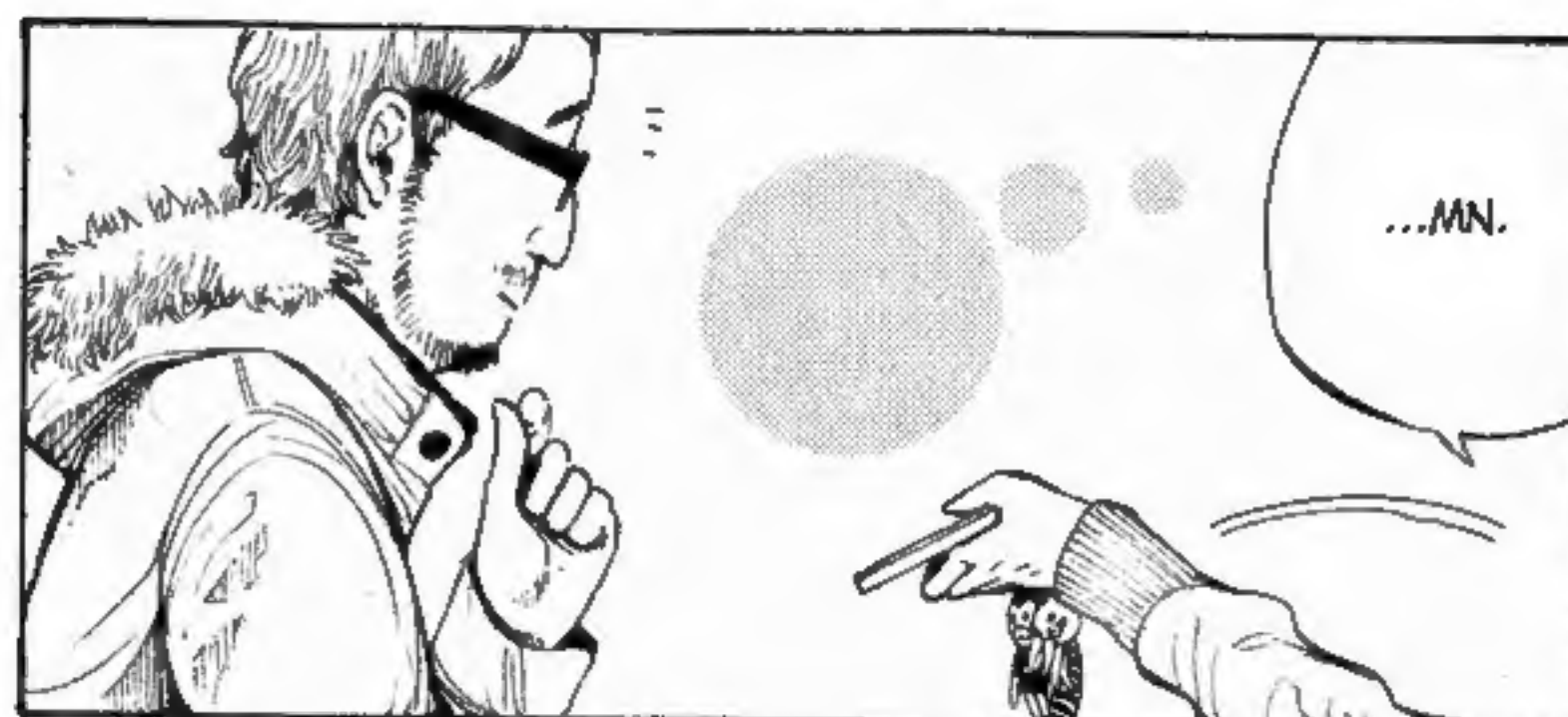


MOM SAID SHE DIDN'T CARE WHETHER I WENT PUBLIC OR PRIVATE AS LONG AS I WENT OUT SOMEWHERE,

DIFFERENT. IT WAS SO LONG AGO, TOO.

I MEAN, LIVING EXPENSES IN TOKYO IS SO HIGH, AND IT'S NOT EXACTLY THE SAFEST NOR CLEANEST PLACE TO LIVE.

BUT IT'S JUST GONNA BE A WASTE OF MONEY. WORKING HERE MIGHT JUST BE THE ADULT CHOICE I HAVE TO SETTLE WITH...



...MN.



ADULT, EH...?

YOU SHOULD EXPECT A LIL' MORE FROM YOUR OWN FUTURE.



WHO'S THIS, YOUR BOYFRIEND?

WELL, HE SEEMS PRETTY COOL.

シガレットアンソロジー メンソール



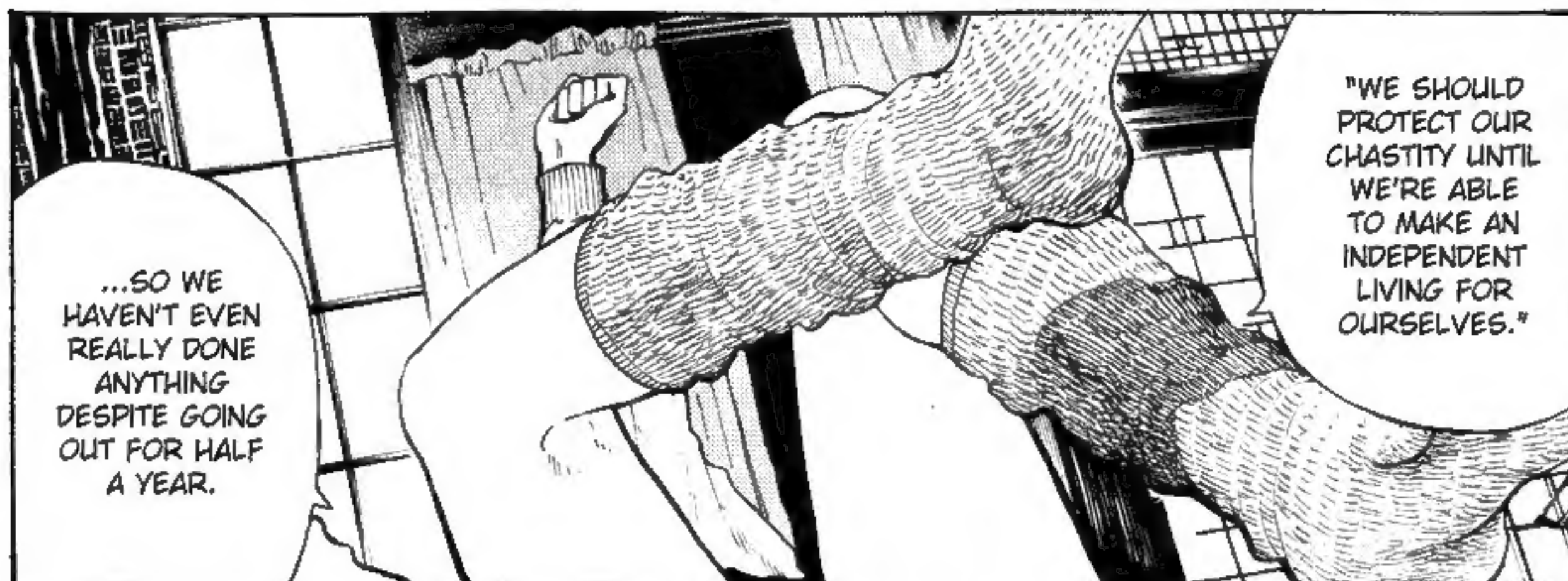
SERIOUSNESS
IS ONE OF
THE BEST
TRAITS TO
HAVE FOR
A PERSON.

WELL
THAT'S
GOOD TO
HEAR...



NO, HE'S
JUST
NORMAL.

...BUT HE'S
PRETTY
NICE AND
MATURE.



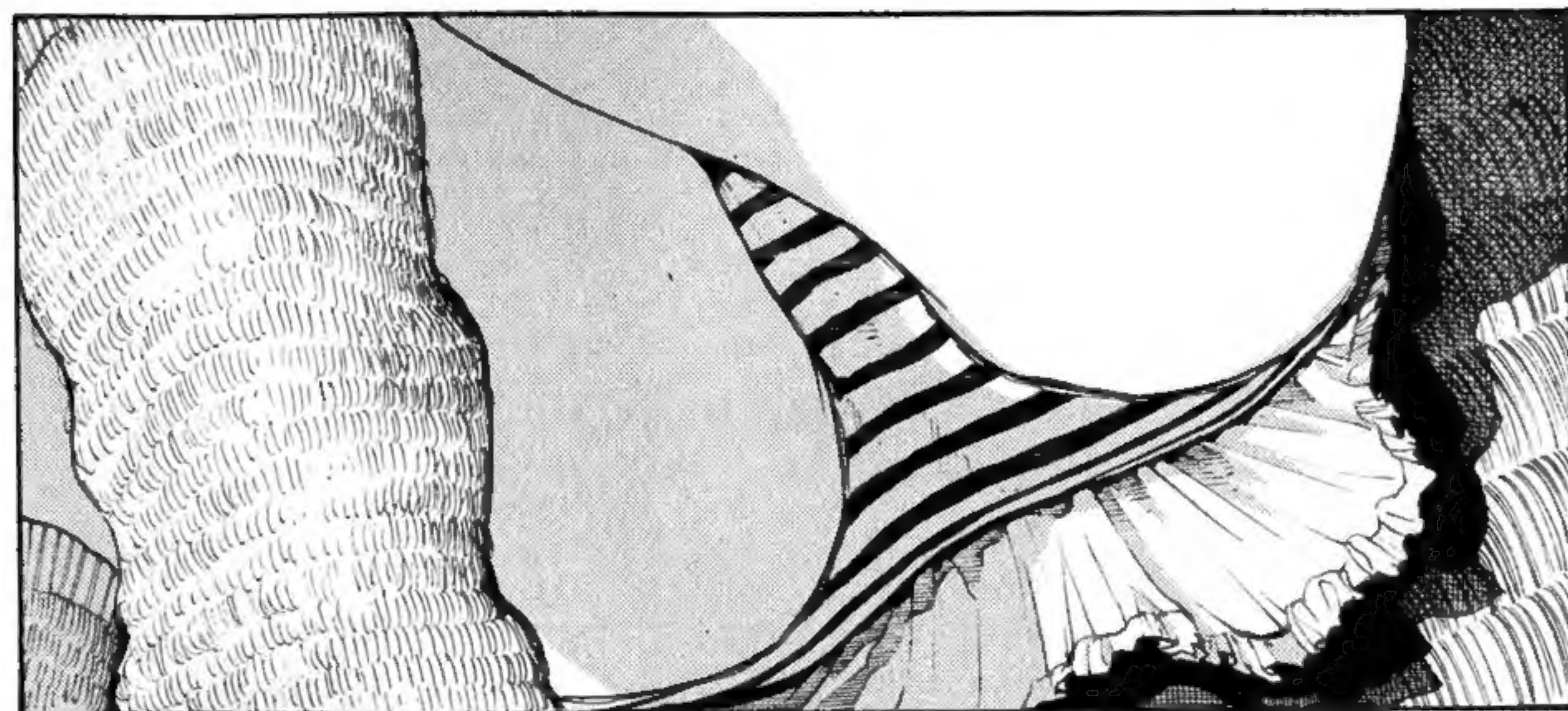
...SO WE
HAVEN'T EVEN
REALLY DONE
ANYTHING
DESPITE GOING
OUT FOR HALF
A YEAR.

"WE SHOULD
PROTECT OUR
CHASTITY UNTIL
WE'RE ABLE
TO MAKE AN
INDEPENDENT
LIVING FOR
OURSELVES."



IT'S JUST...
SO BORING,
YOU KNOW...

IT'S NOT LIKE
I REALLY
CARE, BUT...





YOU QUIT
SMOKING,
DIDN'T YOU,
UNCLE?

BUT
ENOUGH
ABOUT
THAT
TRIVIAL
STUFF.

I CAN TELL
BY THE
SMELL.



SO EVEN YOU
CAN'T GO
AGAINST THE
CHANGING
TRENDS OF
THE WORLD.

OH, YOU
REALIZED?



SHE SAID IT'D
ONLY SHORTEN
MY YEARS.

MNN...

I PROMISED
MY GIRLFRIEND
I'D STOP.



...BLUMMER.

SUCH A
DISAP-
POINTING
BUMMER.







IT WASN'T
IN THE
BATHROOM!

DID YOU
FIND IT
YET!?



JEEZ!

YOU CAN BE
SUCH A DITZ
AT TIMES!

HMM...

I DON'T
SEE HOW I
COULD'VE
POSSIBLY
LOST IT...



MAYBE
UNCLE
TOMIOKA
MISTOOK IT
AS HIS
PHONE AND
TOOK IT...

HIS EYES ARE
PRETTY BAD
AND ALL CELL
PHONES MIGHT
AS WELL BE
THE SAME
TO HIM...



THOSE TWO
ARE THE
SAME NOW
AS THEY
ALWAYS
WERE.

MMHMM.



LET'S GO TO
HIS HOUSE
AND CHECK!

IF YOU ASK FOR
DAD'S CAR, IT
SHOULD ONLY
TAKE 30 MIN!



...I THINK
THAT'S
ENOUGH.



...SE-CCHAN.



YEAH?



